

GEL113.Spring.2008

**- COURSE SYLLABUS -**

# **GEL 113 PHYSICAL GEOLOGY LAB**

**(1 Semester Credit Hour)**

**Spring 2008**

**Professor: Dr. Brian Cooper  
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**Uranophane**  
Source: USGS Photographic Library

# GEL 113 PHYSICAL GEOLOGY

**Professor:** Brian Cooper  
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**Section:** (01) – (12)  
**Semester:** Spring 2008  
**Classes meet:** Room LDB 315,  
**Office Hours:** LDB300 Any afternoon after 2.p.m or by appointment  
**Final Exam:** To be announced  
**Course Text:** Cooper, Netoff, and Torrez *Physical Geology Laboratory Manual*  
**TAs:** Individual instructors will announce their office hours (their office is located in LDB 309). Messages may be left for them in LDB 342 or at 294-3508. PLEASE DO NOT CALL THE MAIN OFFICE!

**Americans with Disabilities Act:** According to University policy requests for accommodations must be initiated by the student. A student seeking accommodations should go to the Counseling Center in a timely manner and discuss any Students with Disabilities (SSD) issues. Every semester that the student desires accommodations, it is the student's responsibility to complete a Classroom Accommodation Request Form at the SSD office and follow the stated procedure in notifying faculty. Accommodations for disabled students are decided based upon documentation and need on a case-by-case basis by the Counseling Center.

**Religious Holidays:** University policy states that a student who is absent from class for the observance of a religious holy day should take an examination or complete an assignment scheduled for that day within a reasonable time after the absence. *The student, not later than the 15th calendar day after the first day of the semester, or the 7th calendar day after the first day of a summer session, must notify the instructor of each scheduled class that he/she would be absent for a religious holy day.*

**Visitors In The Classroom :** Unannounced visitors to class meetings must present a current, official SHSU identification card to be permitted in the classroom or at a restricted field site. They must not present a disruption to the class by their attendance. If the visitor is not a registered student, it is at the instructor's discretion whether or not the visitor will be allowed to remain in the class.

## COURSE DESCRIPTION

### Introduction

The purpose of this lab is to provide "hands-on" experience with earth materials (Labs 1-6) and an understanding of earth features (Labs 7-12). Some of the "hands-on" experience requires time outside of the designated lab time (you need to work with the minerals and rocks and maps as much as possible).

**Objectives:** Scientific thinking and analysis  
Processing of original lab, field and map data  
The nature of scientific (geological) evidence

**Materials required for labs:**

1. Penny and a sharp steel point.
2. Pencils (#2) and eraser.
3. Magnifying lens will help when looking at minerals, rocks, and maps.
4. Scan-Tron Form 815E for quizzes, 882ES for final.

**Basic Philosophies**

I expect good manners and a real concern for the welfare of other members of the class. If you use your imagination and place yourself in the position of others there will be no problems. That means do not disturb others who are there to learn: no cell phones, no sleeping, no reading non-course material.

**Feedback**

I welcome feedback and comments. Don't just wait until that end of semester questionnaire in order to express your feelings about any aspect of the course. This is **YOUR** course and you or someone else is paying a lot of money for it. It is your duty to make sure that you are getting value for money. You may have comments about the pace, the level of discussion, or about the general effectiveness. If you make constructive comments I will in all likelihood respond, but I can only do this if I know that there is a problem. In this connection I get pretty frustrated when the only time certain students attend office hours is just prior to the mid-term or final exam. If you want to do well in this course you have to be engaged with the whole course.

**Attendance**

All labs are compulsory. Taking the Final Exam for the course is also compulsory

The University requires each instructor to keep a record of student attendance.

**Tardies count as an absence.** Please do not be late – it disturbs other members of the class.

**Due Dates and Timetables**

If you have a compelling reason for missing a lab you must make arrangements to make up the lab material covered in your own time. Quizzes can be made up only by specific agreement with your TA and should be made up as quickly as possible after the absence. Do not “save” absences to the end of the course

Please note that I or your TA will only grant an extension or make-up following personal communication, either face-to-face, by phone (not voice mail), or by e-mail. If you use e-mail to request an extension you must not assume that it will be automatically granted – it will only be granted if and when you get an e-mail reply.

**Academic Conduct**

An Honor System applies to this course. If you are not sure about complicated issues like plagiarism or Academic Misconduct you should carefully read the relevant section in the current edition of the Student Handbook.

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## COURSE OUTLINE

LAB	DATES	TOPICS
1	Sept. 10-13	Physical Properties(✓)/Economic Minerals(10)
2	Sept. 17-20	Rock-forming Minerals (10) (Quiz I (30))
3	Sept. 24-27	Igneous Rocks (10) (Quiz II (30))
4	Oct. 1-4	Sedimentary Rocks (10) (Quiz III (30))
5	Oct. 8-11	Metamorphic Rocks (10) (Quiz IV (30))
6	Oct. 15-18	ROCK AND MINERAL PRACTICAL (100)
7	Oct. 22-25	Topographic Maps (10)
8	Oct. 29-Nov. 1	Topographic Maps (10) (Quiz V (30))
9	Nov. 5-8	Topographic Maps (15)
10	Nov. 12-15	Geologic Structures 1 (15) (Quiz VI (30))
11	Nov. 26-29	Geologic Structures 2 (10)/ Geologic Hazards (10) (Quiz VII (30)) (Quiz VII will be given at the end of the lab period)
12	Dec. 3-6	FINAL EXAM (100)

**GRADING:** 6 Quizzes X 30 points each = 180 points (drop lowest of 7 quizzes)  
Miscellaneous exercises = 120 points  
Practical and Final = 200 points  
Total = 500 points

(500-450 = A; 449-400 = B; 399-350 = C; 349-300 = D; < 299 = F)